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PATENT
Docket No. 399632001920
#15
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APR 13 2001

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In the application of:

Alessandro Sette et al.

Serial No.: 09/189,702

Filing Date: November 10, 1998

For: HLA BINDING PEPTIDES AND THEIR
USES

Examiner: Ronald B. Schwadron

Group Art Unit: 1644

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is in response to an Office Action herein mailed 1 December 2000, time for response to which was set to expire 1 January 2000. A petition for an extension of time of 3 months until 1 April 2001 is attached hereto along with the required fee.

Election of species was required.

Applicants hereby elect to prosecute the species of paragraph 5(b), which is the subject matter of current claim 17. From the record, it is believed that Applicants have already elected a specific immunogenic peptide - i.e., that represented by SEQ ID NO:4. Accordingly, the claims which read on the elected species are claims 7-11 and 17. It is unclear to Applicants whether, in

view of the latest election requirement, claim 17 should be made an independent claim with claim 7 dependent thereon. If so, Applicants would suggest the following claim:

A composition comprising an immunogenic peptide of less than about 15 amino acids in length that comprises an HLA-a 2.1 binding motif wherein said immunogenic peptide is linked to a T-helper peptide, and wherein said immunogenic peptide comprises a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS. 1-217.

If the Office wishes to replace current claim 7 with the foregoing claim, Applicants would certainly authorize an Examiner's Amendment doing so.

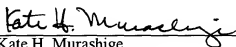
Should there be any question concerning this response, a telephone call to the undersigned is respectfully requested.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. 399632001920. However, the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 2, 2001

By:


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